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MCNIE et al  
Appl. No. 10/565,017  
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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 and add newly written claim 30 as follows.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A variable optical attenuator device comprising:  
a first optical waveguide;  
a second optical waveguide; and  
at least one moveable reflective element having a variable orientation with respect to at least one of said first and second optical waveguides, wherein the device is arranged such that an optical beam output by the first optical waveguide is reflected from the at least one moveable reflective element and the orientation of the at least one moveable reflective element determines the efficiency with which the optical beam is coupled into the second optical waveguide, wherein the first and second optical waveguides are hollow core optical waveguides; and  
~~at least one additional reflective element having a fixed orientation, wherein the optical beam is reflected from both said at least one additional reflective element and said at least one moveable reflective element prior to coupling into said second optical waveguide.~~

2. (original) A device according to claim 1 wherein said at least one moveable reflective element has a controllable angular alignment with respect to at least one of said first and second optical waveguides.